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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE ANCESTRY OF BENJAMIN HARRISON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1889-1893.—In chart form. Showing also the descendants of William Henry Harrison, President of the United States of America in 1841, and notes on the families named. By Charles P. Keith, author of "The Provincial Councillors of Pennsylvania, 1733-1776," etc., Philadelphia, 1893.

In form and matter this is one of the most noteworthy additions to Virginia genealogy which has ever been made. The results of lengthy and minute investigations among all authoritative sources of information which could possibly bear on the subject have been embodied in a very handsome specimen of bookmaking. Mr. Keith has not only carefully and critically examined all public and private records in Virginia relating to the families treated of, but has pursued the same thorough method in tracing the various lines of English ancestry, not even accepting, without question, pedigrees found in the ordinary English genealogical works. In that, too, as in this country, he has obtained much information from manuscript records hitherto unknown to us. The writer has had opportunity to know something of his methods and how much careful study he gave, even in trying to establish an unknown surname, or in an unsuccessful attempt to trace a pedigree further.

This book is not, as might be implied from the preceding remarks, entirely devoted to President Harrison's Virginia ancestry, for it contains accounts of the families of Irvin, McDowell, Ramsey, Symmes and Tuthill; but as it is the Virginia pedigrees that we are most interested in and acquainted with, we will confine our attention to them. The Virginia families given are those of Armistead, Bacon, Bassett, Burwell, Cary, Churchill, Harrison and Landon. The pedigree given of the first named family is by far the fullest and most authentic yet printed, and appears effectually to explode a favorite myth, *i. e.*, that Wm. Armistead, the immigrant, was originally named D'Amstadt, came from Hesse D'Amstadt, and that an old seat of the family in Gloucester, "Hesse," was named in honor of his birthplace. The name was not uncommon in England, and members of the Virginia family before the Revolution, used a bookplate bearing the same arms as the English one.

As Mr. Keith states, it is now almost impossible to compile a complete genealogy of this very numerous race, which, a hundred and twenty-five years ago, had spread into half a dozen counties. We note,

on page 18, what seems to us an error: in the statement that Anne, wife of Anthony Walke, was probably the daughter of Henry Armistead. An old record of the Walkes shows that she was a daughter of William Armistead and Anna Lee, his wife.

Of the branches of the family not included in the book before us, an account, doubtless correct as far as it goes, of the descendants of John Armistead and Lucy Baylor is given in the *Richmond Standard*. A few notes which we have gathered may assist some future genealogist of the family, and will at the same time show its wide diffusion:

Colonel John Armistead, of Gloucester, was sheriff in 1675, member of the House of Burgesses, 1685, appointed to the Council, 1687, and, refusing to take the oaths after the accession of William and Mary, retired from that body, becoming what was called in England a "nonjuror." Isaac Allerton also retired from the Council at the same time and for the same cause. In 1707 Wm. Armistead, of Gloucester, was included in a list of gentlemen "of estate and standing," suitable for appointment to the Council when vacancies should occur. Henry Armistead was a justice of Gloucester, 1723. John Armistead was sheriff of Gloucester, 1729. The "Carter Tree" gives the issue of Wm. Armistead, of "Hesse," who married, about 1765, Maria, daughter of Charles Carter, of "Cleve." We are informed that there is, in the possession of descendants of this Wm. Armistead, a large and valuable collection of family papers, letters, &c. Anthony Armistead was sheriff of Elizabeth City, 1684, and burgess, 1699. Captain Wm. Armistead, burgess for Elizabeth City, 1692 and 1710. Anthony Armistead sheriff Elizabeth City, 1720 and 1727. Anthony Armistead, Jr., appointed justice of Warwick, 1727, and sheriff, 1730, 1732. Wm. Armistead member of the Elizabeth City Committee of Safety, 1775-6. Robert Armistead sheriff Elizabeth City, 1794. Wm. Armistead sheriff of Elizabeth City, 1789. Robert Armistead, Jr., sheriff Elizabeth City, 1798. Wm. Armistead sheriff of Elizabeth City, 1808. Westwood S. Armistead clerk of Elizabeth City, 1810-1848. Wm. Armistead member of the House of Delegates from Elizabeth City, 1804 and 1817. John Armistead delegate from Elizabeth City, 1818-1824. Robert A. Armistead sheriff of Elizabeth City, 1852. Robert Armistead sheriff of York, 1730 and 1731. It appears from the report of a suit in the Virginia Court of Appeals that — Armistead [John] had issue: I. John; II. William, of New Kent; III. Gill, of New Kent, married Betsy — [Allen], died in 1762, and had issue: (1) William; (2) Betty, married Miles Selden [in 1774—*Virginia Gazette*]; (3) Susanna, married John Cary; (4) Frances, married Ambler [John A., of "Jamestown"]; (5) Mary, married Burwell [in 1774, Thacker Burwell—*Virginia Gazette*]; (6) Martha. In the Journal of the House of Burgesses, 1762, is an order for a new election to supply the place of "Mr. Armistead," of New Kent, deceased. Doubtless

this was Gill Armistead. Another court report shows that Lucy B. Armistead, daughter of John Armistead (who died 1780), and his wife, Mary (who died 1792), became entitled on her mother's death to certain land and slaves in New Kent, and that she married, Dec. 24th, 1801, Aylett Walker. Her brother, Robert B. Armistead, who was her guardian, died in 1811, leaving a son, John D. Armistead.

The wide distribution of the family is shown by the fact that of the County Committees of Safety of 1775-6, Robert Armistead, of Louisa, John Armistead, of Caroline, Henry Armistead, of Charles City, and John Armistead, of New Kent, were members. William, Thomas, and perhaps others were officers in the Revolution. Wm. Armistead was a justice of New Kent, 1789. John Armistead, of New Kent, was a member of the State Senate, 1776, &c. Robert B. Armistead was a justice of New Kent, 1792. John Armistead appointed justice of Fauquier, 1804. Peter Armistead appointed a justice of Culpeper, 1807. Francis Armistead sheriff of Matthews, 1802-5. Colonel Wm. Armistead, of Amherst, was alive, 1817. Wm. Armistead, of King and Queen, was member of the House of Delegates, 1830, and of State Senate, 1832, &c. A number of the family served gallantly as officers and privates in the Confederate Army, and several were killed in battle.

The ancestry of President Nathaniel Bacon is thoroughly and satisfactorily worked out. Some additional notices of the family, wills, &c., are given elsewhere in this number of the *Magazine*. Mr. Keith's conjecture that George Lyddall, son of Sir Thomas, was the person who lived in Virginia, seems very probable.

Our author was the first to discover the parentage of Captain Wm. Bassett, first of that family in Virginia, and a record in York county, unknown to him, but since quoted by Mr. Lyon G. Tyler, fully confirms his statement. We do not agree, however, with Mr. Keith's suggestion that Capt. Wm. Bassett had possibly been an officer in the Parliamentary Army. It seems to us that his friendship with men like Honeywood, Hammond and Moryson, who we know served in the Royal Army, and who came to Virginia during the civil war, is strong proof to the contrary. Mr. Keith does not notice the fact (shown by *Hening*) that in 1665 Capt. Wm. Bassett was appointed to superintend the erection of a fort at Jamestown.

Col. Wm. Bassett, of "Eltham," was Burgess for New Kent, 1692 and 1702; appointed to the Council, 1707; resigned and was reappointed in 1711; appointed commander-in-chief (county-lieutenant) of New Kent in 1707, and was county-lieutenant of New Kent and King William in 1715. His tomb, bearing arms and epitaph (which was printed in the *Richmond Standard*), has been removed from "Eltham" to Hollywood Cemetery. Mr. Keith inserts a query after the date of the death of Wm.⁸ Bassett, *i. e.*, 1744; but the Journal of the Burgesses for

the session 1743-'4, contains an order for a new election in New Kent, to fill the place of Wm. Bassett, deceased. Burwell⁴ Bassett, of "Eltham," was Burgess for New Kent, 1762-1774; member of the County Committee of Safety, 1775-'6; of the Conventions of 1775, 1776 and 1788; of the State Senate, 1780 and 1788; and of the House of Delegates, 1789, and probably other years. His son Burwell⁵ Bassett, of "Eltham," and of Williamsburg, was member of the House of Delegates from New Kent, 1789; State Senate, 1798-99 and 1802-'3; delegate from James City (where he lived for a time) in 1819 and 1820, and member of Congress, 1805-13, 1815-19 and 1821-31. He died Feb. 26th, 1841. John⁶ Bassett was a member of the House of Delegates from New Kent, 1787. Several letters, from and to Captain Wm.¹ Bassett, referred to by Mr. Keith, have since been published in the *Magazine*.

A discovery which probably interested the largest number of Mr. Keith's Virginia readers was that of the ancestry of Major Lewis Burwell, the immigrant, who now has almost innumerable descendants throughout the United States. It was not the intention of the author to present a full genealogy of the family, which has been already quite fully, and with a few exceptions, accurately done in the *Richmond Standard*. A careful examination of the evidences in the case leads us to believe that Mr. Keith is right in his belief that Lewis Burwell, of "Kingsmill," was a son of the second marriage of Lewis³ Burwell (with Martha Lear). One point in which there is some confusion in the various published accounts of the family is, as to the descendants of President Lewis Burwell. He was appointed to the Council during the session of 1743-'4 (when a burgess); became acting governor in 1750, and died in a short time. He certainly married (in 1736, it is said) Mary, daughter of Col. Francis Willis, and had, says Burke, the historian, three daughters, who married respectively: Peter Whiting, Armistead Lightfoot and Jacqueline Ambler. The wife of the latter, Rebecca Burwell (Jefferson's "Belinda"), was born May 29th, 1746. It is rather curious that the two brothers, Jacqueline and Edward Ambler (who married Mary Cary) were the successful rivals of Jefferson and Washington. President Burwell had certainly one son, Lewis Burwell, who studied law in the Inner Temple, where his name appears matriculated as son of "Lewis Burwell, of Gloucester, Virginia, Esquire," and who was (as "Lewis Burwell, Jr.") sheriff of Gloucester in 1767; Burgess, 1769-74, and member of the Conventions of 1775 and 1776. His name appears frequently in the *Gazette* as having horses in races, and he was probably the Lewis Burwell, of Gloucester, who is announced by that paper, in the spring of 1779, to have died. The "Carter Tree" has it that Nat. Burwell, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Carter, was the father of "Lewis, of Whitemarsh," who married Judith Page and had issue: (1) Alice, m. — Williams; (2)

Nathaniel; (3) Mann; (4) Lewis; (5) Rebecca, m. Jacqueline Ambler. This is of course wrong. Nat. and Elizabeth (Carter) Burwell were certainly the parents of Lewis Burwell (President), but the latter married, as has been stated, Mary Willis, and certainly had children, as just stated above. In one of the early Virginia law reports is a case in which it is stated that a Lewis Burwell married Judith, daughter of Mann Page, and had Alice Grymes, who married Wm. C. Williams, and Judith Carter, who married George Miles. There may have been other children, but they were not interested in this suit. From this it would appear almost certain that the Lewis Burwell, stated in the "Carter Tree" to have married Judith Page, was Lewis, son of the President, and that his issue given (with the exception, of course, of Rebecca), is correct. It was probably his son, Nathaniel, who was sheriff of Gloucester, 1808-10, and also probable that the other son, Lewis, was the same who married, in 1789, Judith Kennon, and died August 24th, 1833, aged 70.

Of this family there were three members of the Council, Lewis, Lewis, and Robert C.; and at least six members of the House of Burgesses: Nathaniel, James, Lewis, Carter, Lewis, and Lewis.

The Carys, of whom only one member in Virginia was an ancestor of President Harrison, are briefly treated of in the notes, but the English ancestry, which had been traced by Mr. Wilson Miles Cary, of Baltimore, is given in the chart and fully proved.

The account of the Harrison family, which has had the honor of furnishing two Presidents of the United States, is given in this volume, and in the addenda which have since been issued, very fully and accurately as far as the Berkeley branch, from which the Presidents came, is concerned. This is one of the instances in which we were acquainted, during the progress of the work, with the very thorough and exhaustive nature of Mr. Keith's investigations here and abroad. We can make no addition or correction in the *genealogical* portion of the account of the family; but as Mr. Keith has largely confined himself to the descents, some notes (gathered from various authentic sources) as to offices held by various members may be of use to those who have the book.

Benjamin¹ Harrison was clerk of the Council, 1633, and Burgess, 1642. Benjamin² Harrison, of "Wakefield," was a justice of Surry, 1671, sheriff, 1679, burgess, 1680 and 1682, and member of the Council from 1698 until his death. Benjamin³ Harrison, of "Berkeley," was attorney-general from 1697 to 1702, and speaker of the House of Burgesses. He at one time intended to write a history of Virginia, and there is in the Council Journal an order permitting him to make extracts from the records for that purpose. Perhaps bad health preceding his early death prevented the execution of his plan. Nathaniel³ Harrison, of "Wake-

field," was a burgess, 1706; appointed to the Council, 1713; appointed county-lieutenant of Surry and Prince George in 1715, and was auditor-general. Benjamin⁴ Harrison, of "Berkeley," was a member of the House of Burgesses when he died in 1744. Benjamin⁵ Harrison, of "Berkeley," "the Signer," was also member of the House of Burgesses, 1746-74; of the Conventions of 1775, 1776 and 1788; speaker of the House of Delegates (1780), and Governor of Virginia. His son, Benjamin⁶ Harrison, of "Berkeley," was a member of the Charles City Committee of Safety, 1775-6, and served in the Revolutionary Army as paymaster, with the rank of captain. A copy of his will, which was filed when his heirs obtained the land bounty due for his services, is in the Land Office. Nathaniel⁴ Harrison, though at a very advanced age, must have been the "Nathaniel Harrison, of Brandon," who was elected member of the State Council in 1776, upon the resignation of his son, Benjamin⁵ Harrison, of "Brandon," who had been elected member of the first Council of State. The latter was probably the "Benj. Harrison, Jr.," who was delegate from Prince George in 1780 and 1784, and the Benjamin Harrison delegate from Prince George, 1777. We cannot assert positively the identity of the Benjamin Harrison who was delegate from Prince George, 1800, 1803-6, and 1816. Henry⁵ Harrison, of Surry county, was a burgess, 1718-23, and appointed to the Council, 1730. Edmund⁶ Harrison was member of the House of Delegates, 1787, 1790, 1793, 1802-6 (and probably other years); was speaker of the State Senate, and elected to the Council, 1793. Collier⁶ Harrison was delegate from Charles City, 1793, 1798, 1799, and 1800. Carter H.⁶ Harrison, of "Clifton," was member of the Cumberland County Committee of Safety, 1775-6, and of the House of Delegates, 1784. Carter B.⁶ Harrison was member of the House of Delegates, 1784 and 1785, and M. C., 1793-99. A Carter Harrison was also delegate for Prince George in 1805-6. George E. Harrison delegate from Prince George, 1825. Randolph Harrison delegate from Cumberland. William Harrison delegate from Sussex, 1823 and 1824. Nathaniel Harrison, who was member of the State Senate in 1780, from Isle of Wight, Surry, and Prince George, was doubtless of "Wakefield." He was probably the Nathaniel Harrison who was speaker of one of the houses of the Assembly, about 1784. William Harrison, who was sheriff of Prince George in 1726 and 1727, was probably of a different family. It may be of service to the genealogical investigators who think that all persons of the name Harrison are of the family of which Mr. Keith writes, to know that in nearly all of the southside counties, Prince George, Brunswick, Sussex, Isle of Wight, &c., the records show numerous Harrisons, many of them named Benjamin, who it is thought could not possibly have been descended from Benjamin Harrison, of Surry.

Recently, while arranging the manuscripts of the Historical Society, the secretary found a copy of the will of Benjamin Harrison, father of the "Signer." Its existence was before unknown, and deeming it to be of interest a full copy will be published in a future number of the Magazine. An account of the "Wakefield" and "Brandon" branches of the family, and a fuller account of those at "Clifton" and "Elk Hill" may be found in the *Richmond Critic*.

Mr. Keith does not attempt to give a genealogy of the Carters, which has been fully done (as far as the *descents*) in the "Carter Tree." This, like all other "trees," is unsatisfactory, as being the bare skeleton of a family history, leaving out the things that make such a history of interest. The account before us, however, shows clearly that John Carter, the immigrant, was married five times, a fact which we believe; no account of the family was given. The records of Lancaster county contain very frequent mention of this Col. John Carter; as Major John Carter, he was a justice of Lancaster, 1653, and on Dec. 13th, 1656, on the formation of the present county, he was made presiding justice and colonel commandant.

There are payments to him for services as a burgess in 1658 and 1660. On Apl. 8th, 1659, Governor Matthews issued a warrant to the sheriff of Lancaster to arrest Col. John Carter, charged with "Contempt of the late commission of the Government set out by his highness [Cromwell] and the lords of the Council," and bring him before the Governor and Council at Jamestown. His will, at Lancaster C. H., was dated January 3d, 1669; but was not put on record until January 9th, 1722. The following is an abstract:

Give the land and houses where I dwell to my son John; to son Robert, 1000 acres of the patent deserted by Col. Matthews and taken up by me, lying on a branch of Corratoman; if son John die without male issue, his land to go to Robert, and if Robert die without male issue and John have female issue, the land to go to such issue; and if John have no issue whatsoever, then the land to go to Robert's female issue, if he have no male. If neither son have issue then my land to go to my daughter Elizabeth Utie. Personal Estate to be divided into three equal parts, of which John and Robert are to have each one, and the other third is to be divided as follows: my wife Elizabeth to be paid £500, with remainder to her son (the said amount being due her by contract); to her also, a negro boy, her necklace of pearl and diamond [&c., &c., &c.]; to daughter Elizabeth Utie £10 sterling she having already had a considerable portion; son Robert to have his mother's hoop ring, and Crystall necklace; son John to have his mother's hoop ring and the Elizabeth piece of gold [probably a medal], also my seal ring, rapier, watch, and wearing apparell, and all my books, only my son Robert to have one sixth part of them; and my

wife to have David's Tears, Byfields Treatise, the whole duty of man, and her own books; my son Robert, in his minority is to be well educated for the use of his estate, and he is to have a man or youth servant bought for him, that hath been brought up in the Latin School, and that he (the servant) shall constantly tend upon him, not only to teach him his books, either in English or Latin, according to his capacity (for my will is that he shall learn both Latin and English, and to write), and also to preserve him from harm and from doing evil. My executors to allow my wife for her son's education £10 per annum and in case my wife put her son out apprentice his portion to bind him is to be paid; son John is to allow my wife's son (whose name is intended Charles) necessary clothes. Remainder of estate to be divided into three equal parts between wife and sons John and Robert. Appoint Mr. Thomas Haynes, Mr. Thomas Maidstard, Mr. Robert Griggs, and Mr. David Miles executors. Codicil: My son Charles to have £12 instead of £10 per annum [also gives several other legacies].

The inventory of the personal estate of Col. John Carter was recorded July 20th, 1670. Among numerous entries it included many napkins and table cloths marked M. V., others marked S. V. F., F. AC., E. C., and I. C.; curtains, sheets, &c., &c.; a number of beds and bedsteads, 110 lbs. of the best sort of pewter, 60 lbs. of the middle sort of pewter, 55 lbs. of old broken pewter, kitchen utensils, 15 "turkie work chairs," 21 old leather chairs, 8 turkie work cushions, and 2 old cushions, 6 Spanish tables, 2 looking glasses, 2 chests of drawers, 2 silver tankards (valued at £13), 1 large silver salt seller, 2 silver porringers, 9 silver spoons, sheep, cattle, hogs and numerous other articles; the whole appraisement being £2250 10. 6.

It is not known for whom the initials (containing V.) stand. None of John Carter's wives had surnames beginning with V. Perhaps the impalement three crosses crosslet on shield on Robt. Carter's tomb represents this name.

The son Charles probably died young as his name does not appear again except in his brother John's will. Robert, the second son, was the well known "King Carter," whose will is not on record at Lancaster C. H., but was probably proved in General Court. Of the eldest son, John, little has been known, though the "Carter Tree" states that he married Elizabeth Wormeley, and had a daughter, Elizabeth, who married — Lloyd. He appears in the Lancaster records as Lt.-Colonel Jno. Carter, a justice in 1676, and died in June, 1690, leaving a daughter, Elizabeth, who married John Lloyd, of Richmond county, Gentleman. An examination of the General Court records (one volume in the Society Library) and those of Lancaster, show that this Col. John Carter, Junior, probably married, first, a daughter of Wm. Lloyd, as there is, dated June 10th, 1690, a deed from Elizabeth, wife

of Wm. Lloyd, Gent., one of the overseer's of Col. Jno. Carter [Jr's], will, and grandmother of his daughter, Elizabeth, and that he married secondly (as the records show), Elizabeth, daughter of Raleigh Travers, of Lancaster county. She married, secondly, Col. Christopher Wormeley, of Middlesex (who had himself been married twice before). The number of times and the rapidity with which these old colonial people married is astonishing. The Lancaster records prove beyond a doubt that Elizabeth, the mother of Mrs. Elizabeth (Travers) Carter, married, (1) Thomas Stevens; (2) Raleigh Travers; (3) Robert Beckingham; (4) Thomas Wilks; (5) George Spencer, and probably a sixth time, as there is mention, in 1697, of Wm. Man having married Elizabeth Spencer, widow. It was not at all an unusual thing for a later husband to submit for probate the will of his predecessor. They all seem to have been to a man (and woman) devout believers in the precept that it is not good for man to be alone, and got rid of this loneliness with a speed which would almost make the funeral baked meats serve for the wedding feast. It should be borne in mind, however, that the position of a woman, alone in charge of an estate in a newly settled country, surrounded by half savage negroes or convict servants, was a disagreeable and trying one, and doubtless accounts a good deal for the marriages.

The will of John Carter, Jr., dated June 4th, 1690, and proved in Lancaster, June 11th, 1690, gives freedom to several negroes; to Edward Herbert 20 shillings for a ring; makes various provisions for his wife (who is to have one-third of his books of divinity); his daughter, Elizabeth, to have the other two-thirds of his books of divinity. Two-thirds of his property (after the payment of his debts) is to go to his daughter, Elizabeth, who is permitted to sell all the property in Virginia, the money to be paid by good bills of exchange to be sent home [the common term for England] to Mr. Lemon and Mr. Arthur Bailey, or the survivor. His daughter to have her choice at 14 years, either to stay in Virginia and live either with her grandmother, her mother [step-mother?], or Mrs. Morrice, which she pleases, and to be allowed £30 per annum, &c. &c.; or to go to England, and there to be allowed £40 sterling per annum out of the said interest. His brother, Robert Carter, to receive two-thirds of the property if Elizabeth died before she came of age or married, and his brother Charles to have one-third [one-third of the estate not provided for was of course the wife's dower]. Appoints his daughter, Elizabeth, his executor, and her grandmother, her "mother-in-law" [step-mother], his brother Robert, and Mrs. Morrice, overseers. Also gives legacies to Mr. Jackson [Andrew Jackson, minister of the parish], Mr. Morris and his wife, and Doctor Innis. Gives to his brother Robert, all his law and Latin books, and his sword, cane, and periwig. There is recorded shortly afterwards

an inventory of his personal property, which included 71 slaves, 63 titles of books, Latin, Greek, Spanish and French, and in English; divinity, poetry, history, &c. &c. [The Eiken Basilike appears next to Ovid, and the Basilikon Doron to Penn's "No Cross no Crown"—Baxter seems to have been an especial favorite]. The articles in this inventory are not appraised; but there is also what appears to be an additional inventory, amounting to £1038 3 8. It is worth noting that there was another family of Carter in Lancaster, descended from Major Thomas Carter, justice in 1663.

In connection with the Carter pedigree Mr. Keith has made careful investigation in regard to the Landons.

Prefixed to the book is a large genealogical chart, tracing through many lines a remote and distinguished European ancestry.

Mr. Keith's work throughout is so well done that it really precludes any critical examination. All that can be said is to praise it. We have, however, used it as an occasion to gather some additional notes that may be useful to its readers. It was intended that a much earlier notice should have been given, but unforeseen circumstances have prevented.